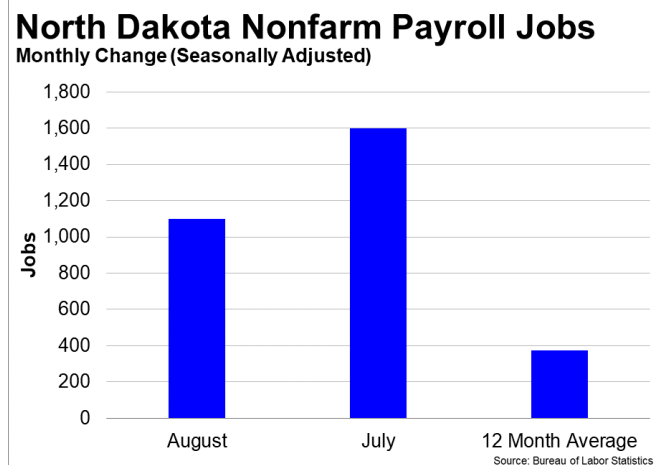
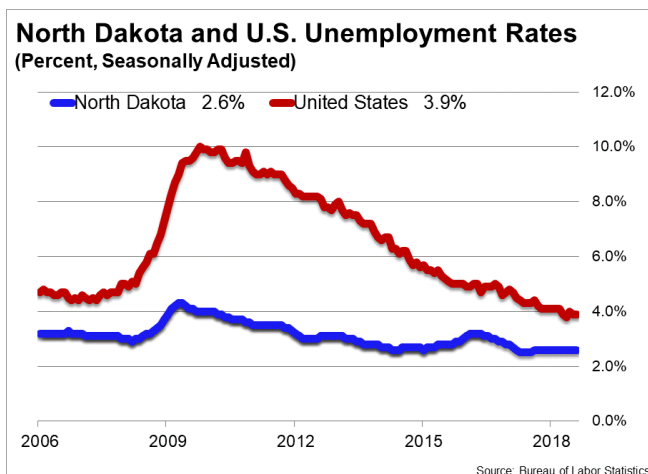


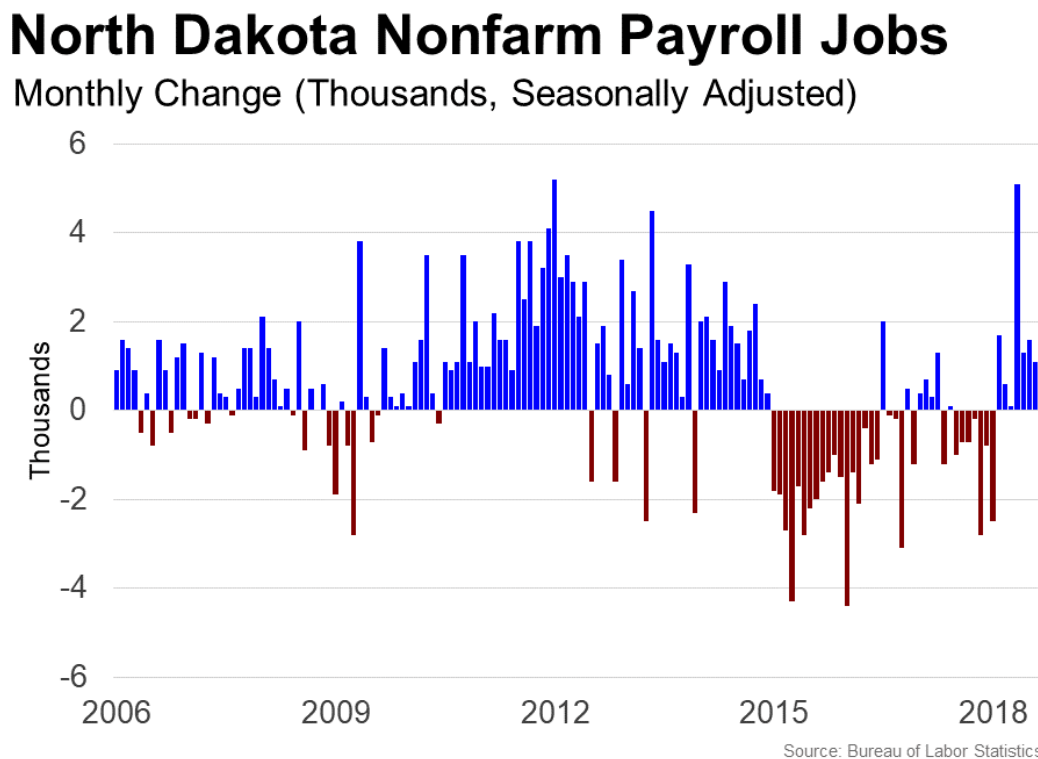


September 21, 2018

Summary

- **North Dakota added 1,100 jobs and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 2.6 percent in August** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, North Dakota added 4,500 jobs** and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 2.6 percent.
- **In August, North Dakota's private sector added 800 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 5,800 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed North Dakotans fell by 112 in August**, and over the past year 8,620 North Dakotans lost jobs.
- North Dakota's **labor force participation rate decreased to 70.1 percent** from 70.5 percent in August. Since last year, the labor force participation rate fell 1.4 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **was unchanged at 3.9 percent in August**. State employment and unemployment data for September is scheduled for release on October 19, 2018. The national employment situation report for September will be released on Friday, October 5, 2018.





North Dakota Payroll Employment

North Dakota added 1,100 jobs, or 0.25 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during August. In the prior month, North Dakota added 1,600 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in North Dakota increased by 4,500, or 1.04 percent. North Dakota nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 7 of the past 12 months.

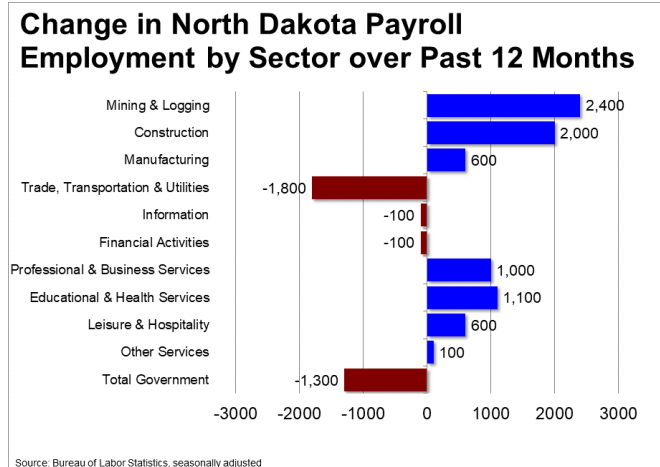
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 201,000 jobs in August, or 0.13 percent. Over the 12-month period ending August 2018, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,330,000 jobs, or 1.59 percent. North Dakota ranks 22nd among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During August, North Dakota's private-sector added 800 jobs, or 0.23 percent. The private-sector in North Dakota added 1,300 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in North Dakota increased by 5,800, or 1.67 percent. North Dakota private-sector payroll employment has increased in 8 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 204,000 jobs in August, or 0.16 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,329,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.87 percent. North Dakota ranks 25th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during August were Construction (+700) and Mining & Logging (+400). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-400), Financial Activities (-100), and Professional & Business Services (-100).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Mining & Logging (+2,400) and Construction (+2,000). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-1,800) and Total Government (-1,300).



North Dakota Labor Force Statistics

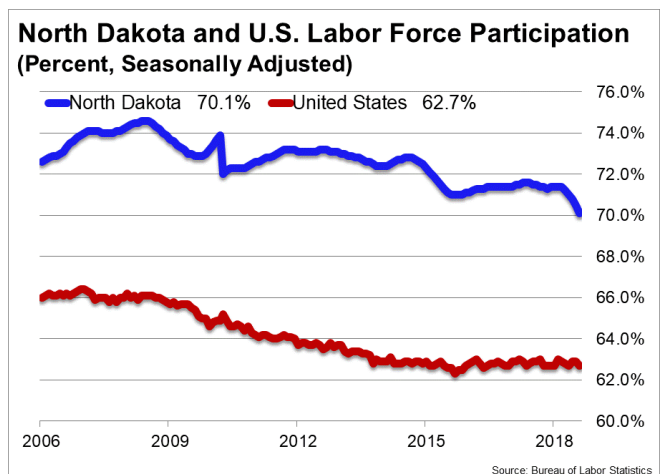
Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate in North Dakota declined to 70.1 percent in August from 70.5 percent the prior month. At 70.1 percent, North Dakota has one of the five highest labor force participation rates in the nation. The labor force participation rate in North Dakota is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in North Dakota was 74.3 percent in September 2008. The series high for the labor force participation rate in North Dakota occurred in July 2008 when the labor force participation rate hit 74.6 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 70.1 percent in August 2018. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in March 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 62.1 percent. The national labor force participation rate declined by 0.2 percentage point to 62.7 percent in August 2018, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the North Dakota civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, declined to 68.2



percent in August from 68.6 percent the prior month. At 68.2 percent, North Dakota has one of the five highest employment-to-population ratios in the nation. The employment-to-population ratio in North Dakota is 1.4 percentage points lower than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in North Dakota was 71.9 percent in September 2008. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in North Dakota occurred in May 2008 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 72.4 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 68.2 percent in August 2018. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in April 1976 when the employment-to-population ratio was 60.0 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio declined by 0.2 percentage point to 60.3 percent in August. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

